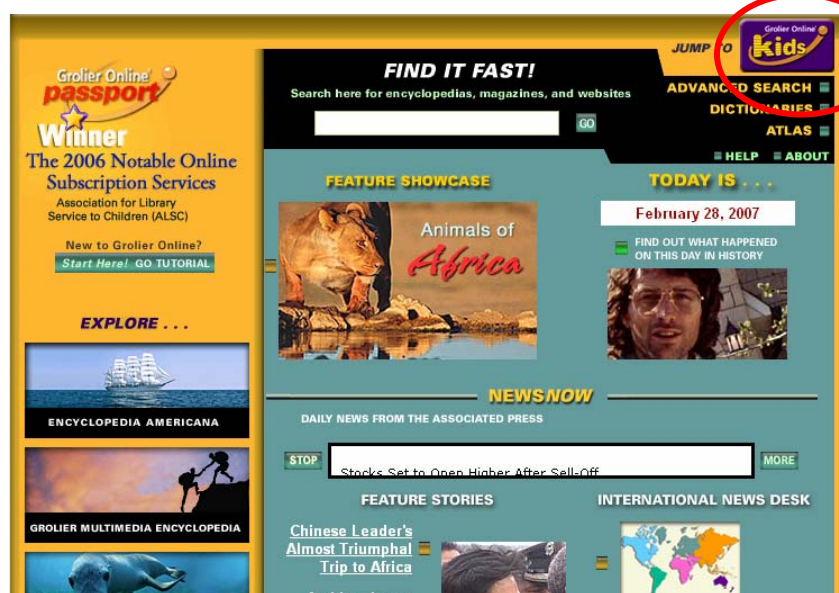


Grolier Online Introduction

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Introduction

Grolier Online is an integrated multimedia online reference source. It is divided into two major environments. *Grolier Online Kids* is designed to meet the needs of students in grades 3 – 5. *Grolier Online Passport* is designed for use by grade 5 through adult users. Both can be accessed from the URL <http://go-passport.grolier.com/> or, currently, it is the student homepage. Toggle between “kids” and “passport” using the button in the upper right hand corner of the home page.



Home Page

The home page includes a database search (“Find It Fast”) as well as a “Feature Showcase”, “Today Is...”, “NewsNow”, and teacher resources. In the sidebar on the left, first time users will find the video tutorial very useful for learning how to navigate the site. Also included are links to other Grolier databases including *Encyclopedia Americana*, *Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia*, *The New Book of Knowledge*, *Le Nueva Enciclopedia Cumbre*, *The New Book of Popular Science*, *Lands and Peoples*, and *America the Beautiful*.

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Find It Fast

Type a subject in the "Find It Fast" search box and Grolier's search engine will immediately take you to a list of encyclopedia articles, websites, media items, news stories and magazine articles. Use the tabs to move between result groups. Each encyclopedia article shows the database from which it was taken. Alternatively, the search can be narrowed to focus on desired Grolier databases by using the buttons on the left side of the page. Similarly, searches can be narrowed in the media section and news stories can be sorted by date or relevance. In all the result lists, links to a dictionary and atlas are available.

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Feature Showcase

Feature multimedia presentations with videos, text, photos, and teacher resources, as well as links and quizzes are changed several times during the year. The subject matter for the features is similar for both the Grolier Kids and Grolier Online but with different levels of sophistication and depth of material. Flash and either Quick Time or Windows Media Player are required for full multimedia capability but html versions are also available. The feature showcase is not archived.

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NewsNow

Headline news stories as well as in-depth feature articles can be found in the NewsNow section. Archives of past feature articles are available upon opening the "feature article" page. Clicking on the world map opens a search feature for international news briefs sorted by date and continent. Links to online editions of newspapers worldwide are available by selecting the world newspapers link. *From the Editor's Desk* presents editorial comments and encourages a more in-depth look at headlines.

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Today Is

This section contains a short article about an event from history and lists of other events that occurred on the current date. Readers can also choose to visit the Library of Congress for events specifically related to United States history or click on the "GME Today Is" multimedia link for even more information about this day in history.

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For Educators

This section contains a featured lesson plan, a database of lesson plans, and state standards for teachers. In addition, articles can be searched by lexile levels, allowing teachers to better meet the needs of diverse populations. Links to professional development opportunities and teaching strategies as well as support for more effectively using Grolier in the classroom are also available on this page.

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Dictionaries and Atlas

Grolier Online also offers access to various levels of the American Heritage Dictionary and to both Roget's Thesaurus and a children's thesaurus. These resources are available from the home page as well as from any of the Find It Now pages. An interactive world atlas is also available from these pages. Having these resources readily available allows readers to verify the meanings of words or pinpoint locations, offering immediate, convenient, and accurate support for readers.

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